AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (presently amended)

A method of establishing an electrical connection between at least one connecting piece (9) of a workpiece (11) and at least one wire (6) comprising:

- preparing an end of the at least wire (6) with a contact piece (1) matched to the connecting piece (9),

-positioning the contact piece (1) on the connecting piece (9); and

-welding the contact piece (1) to the connecting piece (6) by laser radiation.

Claim 2 (previously amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein the contact piece (1) is pressed onto the wire end.

Claim 3 (previously amended)

The method of claim 2 wherein the contact piece (1) is plugged onto the connecting piece (9) for the positioning.

Claim 4 (previously cancelled)

Claim 5 (original)

The method of claim 1 wherein the dimensions of the contact piece (1) are chosen so that the contact piece (1) is prevented from sliding off the connecting piece (9).

Claim 6 (previously amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein, prior to the laser welding, the positioning of the contact piece on the connecting piece (9) is monitored.

Claim 7 (previously amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein each workpiece (11) has at least two connecting pieces (9) and one wire (6) is connected to each connecting piece (9).

Claim 8 (original)

The method of claim 7 wherein the connection of the at least two wires (6) to the at least two connecting pieces (9) is performed simultaneously.

Claim 9 (original)

The method of claim 7 wherein the wires (6) are arranged parallel to the line of alignment of the at least two connecting pieces (9) and at least one of the contact pieces (1) is bent so that the wires (6) extend parallel adjacent each other after the positioning of the contact pieces (1) on the connecting pieces (9).

Claim 10 (original)

The method of claim 7 wherein, prior to laser welding, the assignment of the wires (6) to the connecting pieces (9) is monitored.

Claim 11 (original)

The method of claim 2 including the additional step of encapsulating the workpiece (11) after the laser welding.

Claim 12 (original)

The method of claim 2 wherein all the steps are performed by computer-control in a fully automatic manner.

Claims 13 to 21 (previously cancelled)

Claims 22 to 27 (withdrawn)

Concluded